

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the *Office Action*. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of the Application. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Applicant has amended Claims 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, and 17-18. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Applicant's Summary of Telephone Interview

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's participation in the telephone conference conducted on January 16, 2009 among Examiner Brian T. O'Connor and Applicant's representatives (Keiko Ichiye, Reg. No. 45,460 and Timothy R. Gerlach, Reg. No. 57,548). During the telephone conference, the § 103 rejections were discussed, but no agreement was reached.

Section 103(a) Rejection

The *Office Action* rejects Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12-15, and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,553,423 issued to Chen ("*Chen*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,327,683 issued to Ogier et al. ("*Ogier*") and further in view of "On Inferring Autonomous System Relationships in the Internet" by Gao ("*Gao*"). The *Office Action* also rejects Claims 6, 11, 16, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over *Chen* in view of *Ogier* in view of *Gao* and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0182034 filed by Klinker ("*Klinker*"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the reasons discussed below.

Applicant respectfully submits that the proposed combination of *Chen*, *Ogier*, and *Gao* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest each of the elements of the claims. For example, with respect to amended Claim 1, the proposed combination fails to disclose that a network element that "receives an advertisement communication from each respective autonomous system within an internetwork, the advertisement comprising a list of all autonomous systems connected to the respective autonomous system."

The portions of *Ogier* identified in the *Office Action* disclose the use of "HELLO messages that report only 'changes' in the status of neighbors." *Ogier*, Abstract. The identified portions of *Ogier* also disclose that "each node reports only 'part' of its source tree to neighbors." *Ogier*, Abstract. The mere disclosure of reporting only changes in status or only a part of a node's source tree does not disclose, teach, or suggest, an "advertisement

comprising a list of all autonomous systems connected to the respective autonomous system " of Claim 1.

Furthermore, *Ogier* states that only a part of a node's source tree is sent as a way to minimize overhead. (*Ogier*, Abstract.) Accordingly, *Ogier* teaches away from modifications that would increase the overhead by including more extensive or complete source trees.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, and all claims depending therefrom, are allowable over the proposed combination. For at least certain analogous reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 7, 12, and 17 are allowable over the proposed combination.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all the pending claims.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this case in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact Keiko Ichiye, the Attorney for Applicant, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6494.

Although Applicant believes no fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicant



Keiko Ichiye
Reg. No. 45,460
Tel. (214) 953-6494

Dated: January 21, 2009

Correspondence Address:

Customer Number: 05073